

February 12, 2006

Federal Communication Commission
Washington, D.C.

The following are my comments to the FCC's "Notice of Proposed Rulemaking" 05-311 on "video franchising":

As a supporter of PEG channels available in my community, I must say that these channels provide the public with more local and specific information than would be available otherwise. As television becomes more and more "national" with consolidation and mergers, the importance of local information grows significantly. As I understand the Communications Act of 1934, the two mandates given to the FCC by Congress were (1) to prevent interference, and (2) to maximize the public interests. Please take these mandates seriously. The entire country now has access to a great diversity of television via cable and/or satellite. Some of that diversity is a direct result of PEG channels required in the franchising process. Without that requirement, these channels would vanish and leave a great void for the viewers.

Sincerely,

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